

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01910 270721Z
ACTION ST-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /012 W
-----270726Z 128012 /13

R 270630Z DEC 76
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3955
US DESPATCH AGENT NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 1910

OPR PASS USDISPATCH AGENT BALTIMORE

DEPT ATTN ST: PLEASE PASS TO NEA/EX

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ATRN, IZ
SUBJECT: ROUTING OF SHIPMENTS FROM US TO BAGHDAD

1. IN AN EFFORT TO SOLVE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF SHIPMENTS FROM THE
US TO BAGHDAD WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKING SIX MONTHS AND LONGER, POST
CONTACTED MANAGER OF TRANS MEDITERRANEAN AIRWAYS (TMA) AND LEARNED
THE FOLLOWING:

(A) TMA HAS FIVE FLIGHTS WEEKLY FROM AMSTERDAM TO BEIRUT, AND A
WEEKLY FLIGHT FROM BEIRUT TO BAGHDAD. (TMA HAS RESUMED FULL SERVICE
FROM BEIRUT SINCE 16 DECEMBER). FREIGHT RATES AMSTERDAM/BEIRUT/
BAGHDAD ARE: GENERAL CARGO (OVER 45 KILOS) 2.56 DOLLARS PER KILO

EDIBLES (OVER 100 KILOS) 1.48 DOLLARS PER KILO

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (OVER 100 KILOS) 1.90 DOLLARS PER KILOR.

(B) AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTING WOULD BE SEA SHIPMENT TO BEIRUT
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AND AIR FROM BEIRUT TO BAGHDAD. (TMA ADVISES BEIRUT SEAPORT
HAS REOPENED). AIR CARGO RATES BEIRUT/BAGHDAD

GENERAL CARGO (OVER 45 KILOS) 42 CENTS PER KILO

EDIBLES (OVER 100 KILOS) 38 CENTS PER KILO

2. OVERLAND SHIPMENTS FROM EITHER GULF OR MEDITERRANEAN PORTS
LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO BE PROBLEM IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. IN VIEW
OF SERIOUS MORALE PROBLEM AND DIFFICULTIES ARISING FROM PROTRACTED
SHIPPING TIME FOR BOTH PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL SHIPMENTS, SEA/AIR
CARGO SHIPMENTS AS OUTLINED HIGHLY DESIRABLE. TMA ADVISES
COMBINED SEA/AIR SHIPMENTS CAN BE HANDLED ON THROUGH B/L.

3. REQUEST DEPT DO A COST COMPARISON STUDY OF PROPOSED SEA/AIR
SHIPMENTS WITH PRESENT METHOD. IN MEANTIME, IN VIEW OF
INFO CONTAINED IN KUWAIT 5867 (NOTAL) REQUEST SHIPMENTS BE
MADE THROUGH BASRA RATHER THAN KUWAIT.
WILEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: ATRN, IZ
To: STATE
US DESPATCH AGENT
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